

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

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Update on Stabbing of Police Officer Resulting in Officer-Involved Shooting

San Diego – At 12:38 p.m. on March 3, 2022, the San Diego Police Department received a request for “urgent cover” from the San Diego Sheriff’s Department at a residence in the 400 block of West Beech Street. Deputies from the Court Services Unit had gone to a residence at that location to serve civil process paperwork on a female resident. When they contacted the woman, she was uncooperative and was holding a knife. The woman eventually closed the door and the deputies requested assistance.

While the deputies were waiting for additional resources, an employee in the building told them the same woman threatened a maintenance worker with a knife the previous day. The deputies attempted to communicate with the woman for approximately forty-five minutes but were unable to gain her cooperation. When the appropriate resources were gathered, a plan was developed, and the front door was opened to contact the woman. During that contact, a San Diego Police Canine Handler was stabbed in the chest with a large chef’s knife by the woman, prompting an officer-involved shooting. The woman was struck at least once by the gunfire and, unfortunately, she died at the scene.

Investigators from the San Diego Police Department’s Homicide Unit were called to the scene to investigate the incident. Investigators are still in the process of reviewing evidence and video footage. A critical incident video will likely be released soon by the San Diego Sheriff’s Department.

The woman involved in the incident has been identified as 47-year-old Yan Li of San Diego.

Three members of the San Diego Sheriff’s Department fired their service weapons during this incident. They are being identified as Sergeant Daniel Nickel (29-year veteran), Deputy Javier Medina (23-year veteran), and Deputy David Williams (14-year veteran). All the Sheriff’s Department members are assigned to the Court Services Bureau – Field Division. The San Diego Police Officer who fired his service weapon is Rogelio Medina, a 13-year veteran with the Department. Officer Medina is assigned to the Canine Unit.

The San Diego Police Officer who was stabbed in the chest has fortunately been treated and released from UCSD Medical Center. We will not be releasing his name. Chief Nisleit expressed his

gratitude to all the hospital staff and members of the San Diego Fire-Rescue Department for their efforts in treating the officer.

The investigation and review process for an officer-involved shooting are extremely thorough. When the Homicide Unit completes its investigation, it will be reviewed by the San Diego County District Attorney's Office to determine if the officers bear any criminal liability for their actions. The San Diego County Sheriff's Department will be assisting in the investigation and will conduct an administrative investigation into their deputies' discharge of their firearms. The San Diego Police Internal Affairs Unit will conduct an internal investigation into the actions of the San Diego Police Officer. The Federal Bureau of Investigation and the United States Attorney's Office will also be monitoring the investigation.

Anyone with information regarding this incident is asked to call the Homicide Unit at (619) 531-2293 or Crime Stoppers at (888) 580-8477.

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